

GOVERNMENT, MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

SUMMARY OF 2014 LEGISLATION

One Hundred Third Legislature
Second Session

Senator Bill Avery, Chair
Senator John Murante, Vice-Chair
Senator Dave Bloomfield
Senator Tommy Garrett
Senator Russ Karpisek
Senator Scott Lautenbaugh
Senator Jim Scheer
Senator Norm Wallman

Christy Abraham, Legal Counsel
Sherry Shaffer, Committee Clerk

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**LIST OF BILLS REFERENCED TO THE
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2013 Carryover Legislation

- LB 41** (Cook) Provide for permanent early voting request list and return of early voting ballots to polling places
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- LB 56** (Larson) Provide for automatic nomination of certain county officers
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- LB 65** (Schilz) Authorize counties to set sheriff's fees and commissions
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- LB 108** (Karpisek) Prohibit counties, cities, and villages from imposing credentialing requirements
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- LB 127** (McGill) Provide for preregistration to vote for 16 and 17 year olds
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- LB 160** (Schumacher) Provide for electronic signatures on recall, initiative, and referendum petitions
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- LB 183** (Karpisek) Provide for county board appointment of election commissioners
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- LB 188** (Karpisek) Require legislative approval of gubernatorially appointed election commissioners
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- LB 206** (Schumacher) Require secret-ballot envelopes for mailed ballots
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- LB 215** (Schilz) Change provisions relating to the use of the County Visitors Promotion Fund
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- LB 217** (Avery) Change constitutional officers' salaries
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- LB 219** (Avery) Change petition requirements for general election ballot
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- LB 241** (Sullivan) Authorize voters to change election of county offices from partisan to nonpartisan
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- LB 257** (McCoy) Change provisions relating to creation of municipal counties
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- LB 278** (Pirsch) Change provisions relating to fees charged by the Secretary of State
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- LB 292** (Karpisek) Change population restrictions for conducting elections by mail
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- LB 294** (Seiler) Change provisions relating to use of public resources by public officials and public employees
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- LB 364** (Avery) Permit cities of the metropolitan, primary, and first class to set limits on contracts which affect public officials or employees
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- LB 371** (Mello) Adopt the Transparency in Government Procurement Act
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- LB 381** (Janssen) Require photographic identification to vote
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- LB 382** (Janssen) Change presidential elector selection and voting requirements
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- LB 433** (Price) Require a report and change administration procedures for ballots at hospitals and nursing homes
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- LB 448** (Avery) Prohibit contributions by lobbyists to candidates or members of the Legislature during legislative session
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- LB 449** (Avery) Redefine high elective office for restrictions on multiple office holding
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- LB 450** (Avery) Change political party convention and caucus provisions
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- LB 509** (Murante) Change election of learning community coordinating council
Held in Committee (Pages 29-30)
- LB 515** (Carlson) Change provisions relating to irrigation district elections
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- LB 521** (Christensen) Require cities and villages and other public bodies that maintain web sites to publish ordinances and other information as prescribed
Held in Committee (Page 30)
- LB 534** (Avery) Change provisions relating to the Auditor of Public Accounts and the Legislative Performance Audit Section
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- LB 565** (Nelson) Change provisions relating to registering to vote and requesting a ballot for early voting at the same time
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- LB 588** (Watermeier) Change veteran employment preference provisions
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- LB 603** (Chambers) Include affirmation as an alternative when an oath is required
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- LB 632** (Bolz) Change funding for county offices relating to public assistance programs
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- LB 637** (Wallman) Require an economic analysis of rules and regulations proposed by the Department of Environmental Quality
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- LR 12CA** (Harms) Constitutional amendment to authorize a county manager form of county government
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- LR 23** (Avery) Memorialize Congress to support a constitutional amendment responding to the U.S. Supreme Court decision in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission
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LR 38 (Avery) Endorse Taiwan's participation in the International Civil Aviation Organization as an observer and support efforts to grant Taiwan official observer status at the United National Framework Convention on Climate Change
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LB 661 (Krist) Provide for voter registration on the Secretary of State's website and use of Department of Motor Vehicles records
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LB 662 (Krist) Provide and change requirements for voter identification
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LB 719 (Crawford) Require a report and change complaint procedures regarding rules and regulations
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LB 726 (Scheer) Provide for changing the number of school board members in Class II and Class III school districts
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LB 737 (Dubas) Change qualifications for county veterans service officers
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LB 742 (Murante) Require instant run-off voting in primary elections
Held in Committee (Page 51)

LB 743 (Murante) Provide definition of one-half of an elected term of office
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Portions/Provisions of LB 743 were amended into LB 946

LB 744 (Avery) Establish the Nebraska Sesquicentennial Commission

Enacted (Page 36)

- LB 745** (Avery) Change various provisions relating to administrative governmental functions
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- LB 746** (Avery) Change election provisions to authorize provisional ballots and require identification for certain voters
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- LB 747** (Avery) Provide electioneering communication reporting requirements and restrictions under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act
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- LB 766** (Bloomfield) Change tuition assistance program provisions for National Guard members
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- LB 772** (Davis) Increase expenditure amount for Adjutant General for aerial fire suppression or hazardous material response
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- LB 773** (Davis) Provide for partisan ballots for unaffiliated voters at primary elections
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- LB 778** (Chambers) Require certain entities to comply with provisions on open meetings, public records, and conflicts of interest
Held in Committee (Pages 52-53)
- LB 792** (Sullivan) Eliminate a report requirement by the county treasurers to the State Treasurer
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- LB 804** (Avery) Change and eliminate procedures for filling vacancies and removal of certain gubernatorial appointees
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- LB 805** (Avery) Change application requirements to Nebraska veterans homes
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- LB 806** (Avery) Change provisions of the Military Code relating to Military Department personnel
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- LB 817** (Haar) Change membership provisions relating to public power district boards
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- LB 825** (Lautenbaugh) Require Open Meeting Act compliance by boards and subcommittees subject to the Nebraska Workforce Investment Act
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- LB 833** (Dubas) Change selection provisions for county surveyors
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- LB 845** (Schilz) Provide for regulation of meteorological evaluation towers
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- LB 935** (Gloor) Require legislative approval to move state services
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- LB 937** (Karpisek) Change quorum requirements for county boards of supervisors
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- LB 945** (Davis) Provide procedures for aid to political subdivisions from the Governor's Emergency Program
Held in Committee (Page 54)
- LB 946** (Murante) Change provisions relating to bond elections, county surveyor elections, school board elections, administration and conduct of elections, vacancies, presidential electors, and threshold amounts under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act
Enacted (Pages 37-40)
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- LB 957** (Christensen) Require certain oil and gas exploration findings to be a public record
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- LB 980** (Johnson) Change provisions relating to termination of a township board
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- LB 1013** (Murante) Permit counties to regulate peddlers, hawkers, and solicitors by ordinance
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- LB 1018** (Hadley) Change public record provisions for withholding job application materials from the public
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- LB 1024** (Mello) Permit the Nebraska Tourism Commission to adopt an official state symbol or slogan

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- LB 1037** (McGill) Authorize Auditor of Public Accounts to examine certain entities formed under the Interlocal Cooperation Act
General File (Page 50)
- LB 1048** (Murante) Require delivery of the official election calendar and change and eliminate political party provisions
Enacted (Pages 41-42)
- LB 1058** (Larson) Adopt the Interstate Compact on the Agreement Among the States to Elect the President by National Popular Vote
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- LB 1065** (Lautenbaugh) Eliminate secret ballot provisions under the Open Meetings Act
Held in Committee (Pages 54-55)
- LB 1066** (Lautenbaugh) Require a recorded roll call vote by certain county boards
Held in Committee (Page 55)
- LB 1075** (Harr) Prohibit employment of certain persons leaving public positions
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- LB 1084** (Garrett) Change provisions governing the filling of certain vacancies
General File (Page 50)
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- LR 393CA** (Murante) Constitutional amendment to change signature requirements for initiative petitions
Held in Committee (Page 57)
- LR 395** (Brasch) Recognize February 10, 2014 as the 60th anniversary of the addition of the words “under God” to the Pledge of Allegiance
Adopted (Page 57)
- LR 411CA** (Karpisek) Authorize municipalities and counties to exercise powers in matters of local concern and to eliminate home rule charters
Held in Committee (Pages 57-58)

BILL SUMMARIES: 2013 BILLS ENACTED

LB 56 (Larson) Provide for automatic nomination of certain county officers

LB 56 adds county officers to the list of candidates whose names do not appear on the primary election ballot and are automatically nominated as candidates for the general election. This “automatic advancement” occurs if there are not more than two candidates for each position to be filled.

The committee amendment clarifies how automatic advancement will work for county officials. If the number of candidates properly filed for the nomination of a political party at the primary election for any county officer does not exceed the number of candidates to be nominated by that party for that office, any such properly filed candidate will be declared nominated and their names will not appear on the primary election ballots.

The bill was further amended on Select File to allow a county official to engage in a write-in campaign if he or she files an affidavit before March 3 in the year of the general election. A second amendment was adopted adding an emergency clause.

LB 144 (Brasch) Provide for write-in candidacy by defeated candidate

LB 144 allows a candidate for a county, city, village or school district office who lost in the primary as a result of a determination pursuant to section 32-1122 to be eligible as a write-in candidate for the same office. Section 32-1122 provides that if a recount after a primary election results in a tie, the canvassing board will decide by lot which person is nominated.

Current law does not allow a person who lost in the primary to run in the general election for the same office, including write-in candidacy, filing by petition, or filing a nomination. A person defeated in the primary may run in the general if there is a vacancy on the ballot for that office.

The bill was amended on Select File to include additional candidates for offices, other than statewide offices, who lost in the primary as a result of a tie to be eligible as a write-in candidate for same office in the general election.

LB 215 (Schilz) Change provisions relating to the use of the County Visitors Promotion Fund

LB 215 requires the governing body of the county to use the County Visitors Improvement Fund to promote, encourage, and attract visitors to the county if it is determined the visitor attractions in the county do not require improvement. Currently in law, a governing body may use these funds to promote attractions if the visitor attractions in the county do not require improvement.

The committee amendment changes the word “shall” to “only.” With the change, the amendment provides that if the visitors committee determines that the visitor attractions in the county are adequate, the governing body of the county may only use the County Visitors Improvement Fund to promote, encourage, and attract visitors to the county.

LB 278 (Pirsch) Change provisions relating to fees charged by the Secretary of State

LB 278 makes changes to fees charged by the Secretary of State.

Under current law, a fee of forty-five cents is paid to the Secretary of State for images of records accessed over the Internet, not to exceed \$2000 per request for batch requests. LB 278 eliminates the language that the fee is not to exceed \$2000 per request for batch requests.

Also, a fee of \$800 is charged for monthly updates of the image data base regarding corporations of the Uniform Commercial Code.

A fee of \$6.50 is charged for an electronically transmitted certificate indicating whether a business is property registered to do business in the state. Current language uses the word letter instead of certificate.

On Select File, two amendments were adopted to change how fees for records may be charged by the Secretary of State.

LB 364 (Avery) Permit cities of the metropolitan, primary, and first class to set limits on contracts which affect public officials or employees

LB 364 allows a government body to prohibit contracts over a specific dollar amount in which a public official or a public employee of such body may have an interest.

Currently, public officials and employees may enter into contracts with their governing body if the contract is valued at less than \$2000. If the contract is awarded through an open and public process, a public employee or official may have a contract valued over \$2000.

This bill would allow a governing body to set a stricter standard for the body's employees and officials when entering into contracts with the body.

The committee amendment limits the scope of the original bill. With the amendment, only metropolitan, primary, and first class cities may prohibit contracts over a specific dollar amount where a public official or public employee of that city may have an interest.

LB 371 (Mello) Adopt the Transparency in Government Procurement Act

LB 371 creates the Transparency in Government Procurement Act. The Legislature declares it will be the policy of this state that each agency will quantify the portion of its procurement spending that is reinvested with taxpayers in this state and the nation.

The bill requires each state agency to create an annual report that includes the following:

- the total number and value of contracts awarded by the agency;
- the total number and value of contracts and subcontracts awarded to suppliers within the state and to foreign contractors;
- the dollar value of any supplies purchased that were manufactured outside of the US and within the state;
- the dollar value of any services contracted for that performed outside the US and within the state;
- an itemized list of all waivers of any preference provided for by the state; and
- the total procurement value of funds expended on iron, steel, or manufactured goods manufactured outside the US.

The first report will be submitted to the Governor and the Legislature on or before December 31, 2013 and use information from FY2012-13. Subsequent reports will be submitted on or before December 31 and will include information from the immediately preceding year. The bill outlines when a product will be deemed to be manufactured in the US and defines state agency.

Finally, the bill requires that contractors and suppliers provide to the agency any and all information needed for the agency to comply with these provisions.

The committee amendment strikes the original sections of the bill and replaces them with the following provisions:

Like the original bill, the amendment creates the Transparency in Government Procurement Act. The Act will only apply to contracts awarded by the Department of Administrative Services on and after July 1, 2013.

With the amendment, the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) will create an annual report that includes the total number and value of contracts awarded by the department. The report will also include the total number and value of contracts awarded by DAS within the state and to foreign contractors. Finally, the report will include the number of contracts awarded by the department for which a preference was given.

The amendment eliminates all references to subcontractors and suppliers. With this change, only contracts will be included in the report from DAS.

The report will be submitted to the Governor and the Legislature on or before September 1 of each year. The first report will be submitted on September 1, 2014.

Beginning on July 1, 2013, each contract awarded by DAS will require that the contractors provide the department any and all information needed for compliance with this bill.

The bill was further amended to change the operative dates from 2013 to 2014. Also, an amendment was adopted to exempt the Nebraska Capitol Commission from the provisions of the bill.

LB 565 (Nelson) Change provisions relating to registering to vote and requesting a ballot for early voting at the same time

LB 565 provides that a person will not be permitted to register to vote and to apply for or vote an early voting ballot on the same day.

The bill also prohibits an election commissioner or county clerk from delivering an application for a ballot to vote early or a ballot, in person or by mail, on the same day on which the applicant registered to vote.

Current law allows that if a person requesting an early ballot is not registered to vote, a registration application will be mailed along with the ballot. The ballot is counted if the registration application and ballot is returned not later than the closing on the polls on election day. This bill eliminates that language.

The committee amendment strikes the original sections of the bill and replaces them with the following provisions.

The amendment provides that if person registers to vote and requests a ballot at the same time, he or she will:

1. present a photographic identification or a copy of a utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that is dated within 60 days immediately prior to the date of presentation and shows the name and address of the person;
2. provide a driver's license number or the last four digits of the social security number;
3. present proof he or she is a member or a spouse of a member of the armed forces or Merchant Marines and because of active duty is absent from his or her place of residence, or resides outside of the United States and but for such residence would be qualified to vote in the state;
4. state that he or she is elderly or handicapped and has requested to vote by alternative means; or
5. vote a ballot that is placed in an envelope with the voters name and address and other identifying information which will be kept securely for counting.

The deadline for being able to register and vote on the same day in person at the election commissioners or county clerk's office is the same deadline for voter registration.

A ballot cast pursuant to this amendment will not be counted if the acknowledgment of registration sent to the registrant is returned as undeliverable for reason other than clerical error within 10 days after it is mailed. If the acknowledgment of registration is not returned after 10 days, the ballot will be counted.

The bill was further amended on Select File to remove any references to identification. With that amendment, a person who registers to vote and votes on the same day during the early voting period will have his or her ballot segregated and counted after 10 days if the acknowledgment of registration is not returned.

LB 588 (Watermeier) Change veteran employment preference provisions

LB 588 creates the Veterans Preference Act.

Under the bill, veterans will be given a preference for initial employment in positions with the state or its governmental subdivisions, if the veteran is competent to perform such services. When a veteran applies for a position, the person who fills the position will, if the applicant is a veteran and competent to perform the duties, consider the veteran for appointment.

Within 30 days of filling a position, veterans who have applied and not hired will be notified that they have not been hired.

A veterans preference is not available for key employees, positions held by a patient, inmate or student or positions that are temporary or casual.

All notices of open positions of employment available for veterans preference and all applications will state that the position is subject to a veterans preference, how the preference works, and how veterans may take advance of the preference. A veteran desiring to use the preference will provide a copy of the veteran's Defense Department Form 214 which qualifies the veteran for the preference.

Any person who violates the Veterans Preference Act will be guilty of a Class IV misdemeanor. The county attorneys will prosecute all persons charged with violating the Act. Any veteran who alleges that the state or a governmental subdivision has not provided the veterans preference, after exhausting any available administrative remedy, may bring an action in district court.

The amendment strikes all of the original sections of the bill and replaces it with the following provisions:

Veterans who obtain a passing score on all parts of an examination or numerical scoring will have 5% added to their passing score if a claim for the preference is made on the application. This language is based on the current law of a 5% preference on tests but adds the language regarding “numerical scoring.”

When no examination or numerical scoring is used, the preference will be given to a qualifying veteran if two or more equally qualified candidates are being considered for the position.

All notices of positions of employment available for veterans’ preference will state the position is subject to the preference.

A veteran desiring to use the preference will provide the hiring authority with a copy of the veteran's Defense Department Form 214.

The amendment also allows the spouse of a veteran who has a 100% permanent disability to claim the preference. The spouse of a veteran will provide the hiring authority with a copy of the veteran's DD214 form, the veteran's disability verification, and proof of marriage.

Within 30 days after filling a position, veterans who have applied and are not hired will be notified that they have not been hired. The notice will also advise the veteran of any administrative appeal available.

This act becomes operative on January 1, 2015.

BILL SUMMARIES: 2013 BILLS ON GENERAL FILE

LB 167 (McCoy) Change balloting and vacancy provisions for presidential electors

LB 167 changes balloting and vacancy provisions for presidential electors.

With the bill, presidential electors will execute a pledge agreeing to mark their ballots for President and Vice President of the party that selected them.

Each presidential elector will present the completed ballot to the Secretary of State who will examine each ballot and accept as cast each ballot marked by a presidential elector consistent with his or her pledge. The Secretary of State will not accept a ballot if a presidential elector marked the ballot in violation of his or her pledge or did not mark the ballot.

A presidential elector who refuses to present a ballot, presents an unmarked ballot, or presents a ballot marked in violation of his or her pledge vacates the office of presidential ballot. This creates a vacancy which the Governor will fill.

The committee amendment clarifies language in the pledge of each presidential elector.

With the amendment, the electors will pledge to mark their ballots for President and Vice President for the presidential and vice-presidential candidates who received the highest number of votes in the state if they are an at-large candidate or the highest number of votes in their congressional district if they are a congressional district presidential elector.

Portions/Provisions of LB 167 were amended into LB 946.

LB 188 (Karpisek) Require legislative approval of gubernatorially appointed election commissioners

LB 188 requires election commissioners appointed by the Governor be approved by a majority of the members of the Legislature. Currently, there is no legislative approval required, the Governor simply appoints.

The committee amendment adds an operative date of January 1, 2015.

LB 217 (Avery) Change constitutional officers' salaries

Beginning on January 8, 2015, LB 217 changes the salaries of the constitutional officers to the following:

For a member of the Public Service Commission, the salary will be \$90,000. The current salary is \$75,000.

For the Governor, the salary will be \$126,000. The current salary is \$105,000.

For the Attorney General, the salary will be \$114,000. The current salary is \$95,000.

For the Secretary of State, the salary will be \$102,000. The current salary is \$85,000.

For the Auditor of Public Accounts, the salary will be \$102,000. The current salary is \$85,000.

For the State Treasurer, the salary will be \$102,000. The current salary is \$85,000.

For the Lieutenant Governor, the salary will be \$90,000. The current salary is \$75,000.

These officers last received pay increases in 2007.

The committee amendment removes from the bill the salary increase for members of the Public Service Commission.

LB 219 (Avery) Change petition requirements for general election ballot

LB 219 eliminates language that requires registered voters, in order to be eligible to petition on to the general election ballot, to be registered to vote with a party affiliation on or before March 1 in the calendar year of the general election.

The committee amendment strikes the original sections of the bill and replaces them with the following provisions:

With the amendment, any registered voter who was not a candidate in the primary election and who was not registered to vote with a party affiliation on or after March 1 and before the general election in the calendar year of the general election, may have his or her name placed on the general election ballot for a partisan race by petition or nomination by political party.

Portions/Provisions of LB 219 were amended into LB 946.

LB 382 (Janssen) Change presidential elector selection and voting requirements

LB 382 eliminates the current presidential elector system in Nebraska in which one presidential elector is chosen from each congressional district and two presidential electors are chosen at large. With LB 382, each presidential elector will cast his or her

ballot for the presidential candidate who receives the highest number of votes in the state.

In other words, the presidential candidate who receives the highest number of votes in the state will receive all five electoral votes.

LB 433 (Price) Require a report and change administration procedures for ballots at hospitals and nursing homes

Under current law, election commissioners or county clerks may train registered voters to administer ballots to residents of nursing homes or hospitals. The ballots must be administered by two registered voters of different political parties.

With LB 433, the election commissioner or county clerk will adopt procedures and include the procedures in a plan submitted to the Secretary of State. The procedures will be submitted no later than 25 days before the election.

Within 60 days after an election, the election commissioner or county clerk will submit a report to the Secretary of State indicating:

- the number of ballots cast at nursing homes or hospitals;
- the name and party affiliation of each registered voter administering the ballots;
- the name and address of each nursing home or hospital where the ballots were administered; and
- any other information requested by the Secretary of State.

LB 449 (Avery) Redefine high elective office for restrictions on multiple office holding

LB 449 adds airport authorities, public power districts, natural resources districts, and the metropolitan utilities district to the definition of high elective office.

Current law provides that no person serving in high elective office shall simultaneously serve in any other high elective office. Therefore, under this bill, members of the boards listed above will not be allowed to serve in any other high elective office simultaneously.

Other high elective offices include: members of the legislature, governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor of public accounts, state treasurer, attorney general, public service commission, state board of education, University of Nebraska board of regents, county, city, learning community, community college area, or school district elective office.

The bill also provides that anyone serving more than one high elective office on the effective date of this act will be allowed to complete the remainder of all terms for which he or she was elected or appointed.

LB 534 (Avery) Change provisions relating to the Auditor of Public Accounts and the Legislative Performance Audit Section

LB 534 requires agencies to provide to the Auditor of Public Accounts and the Legislative Performance Audit Section access to any information or records as soon as practicable and without delay, but not more than seven business days after receipt of the written request or provide reasons why the agency is not complying.

If the entire request cannot be fulfilled within seven business days due to difficulty or the extensiveness of the request, a written explanation will be given. No delay due to significant difficulty or extensiveness of the request will exceed three calendar weeks after the receipt of the request unless a longer time period is agreed upon.

Any information requested by the Auditor of Public Accounts or the Legislative Performance Audit Section will be provided without any fees or costs.

The bill also clarifies that the Auditor has access to all records of any public entity required during a financial audit, an attestation engagement or a performance audit of political subdivisions.

Finally, the bill adds language providing that an audit of federal funds will only be conducted when there is a contractual agreement between the auditor and the agency.

The amendment makes two changes to the original bill:

First, the amendment allows the Legislative Performance Audit Section and the Auditor of Public Accounts to petition the Attorney General to determine whether the agency is complying in providing records in a timely manner.

Secondly, the amendment provides that if a public postsecondary educational institution is required to have an A-133 single audit, the institution may request the Auditor to perform the audit or select a private, independent auditor that is a CPA or a firm registered under the Public Accountancy Act.

The amendment also clarifies that the Auditor may only perform the A-133 single audit if requested and a contract for the auditing services has been signed by the auditor and the public entity. This provision is limited to the University, state colleges and community colleges and does not include other entities that may be required to have an A-133 audit performed.

LB 603 (Chambers) Include affirmation as an alternative when an oath is required

LB 603 includes the words “affirm or affirmation” in those sections of law where an oath is required.

These sections include oaths for: elected officials, persons who are paid from public funds for their service, members of dock board, jurors, witnesses, deputy registrars, persons who acquires list of registered voters, members of the learning community council, candidate filing forms, persons who rendered assistance in casting a ballot, challenging a person's right to vote, new and former residents receiving a ballot, registered voters without residence address who apply for a ballot, watchers who observe the counting of ballots, and members of the Land Reutilization Commission.

The bill also eliminates the phrase “so help me God” when it appears in various oaths.

The committee amendment strikes the original sections of the bill and replaces them with the following provisions:

First, the amendment adds the words “or affirms” when the words “swear” or “sworn” appear in statute.

Secondly, when the words “So help me God” appear in statute regarding oaths, language is added to provide the oath will be taken “in substance.”

Finally, unlike the original bill, the committee amendment does not add the words “or affirmation” every time the word “oath” appears. All of the sections in the original bill that add the words “or affirmation” after the word “oath” are eliminated with the committee amendment.

LB 637 (Wallman) Require an economic analysis of rules and regulations proposed by the Department of Environmental Quality

LB 637 amends the Administrative Procedures Act to require additional duties for the Department of Environmental Quality when proposing rules and regulations.

If DEQ intends to adopt a rule or regulation that will impose requirements different than federal regulations or increase costs on regulated persons or entities, DEQ will prepare a statement that describes the annual economic impact of the rule. The bill outlines what will be included in the statement, such as: an estimate of the number of persons effected by the rule; an estimate of the total annual economic impact to comply with the rule; a statement justifying any requirement or cost that is imposed on regulated persons or entities; and a regulatory flexibility analysis that considers less intrusive methods.

If DEQ makes a determination not to implement one of the alternative methods considered, DEQ will include a statement explaining its reason for the determination.

In determining the annual economic impact of a rule, DEQ will consider the annual economic impact on all regulated persons or entities beginning with the first 12-month period after the rule is fully implemented.

DEQ will also deliver copies of the statement to the Governor's Policy Research Office not later than 60 days prior to the date of publication. The bill requires the Policy Research Office to review the proposed rule if the economic impact is greater than \$5000 and may review it if it imposes requirements on regulated persons or entities.

The Policy Research Office will prepare a fiscal impact statement concerning the effect that compliance with the rule will have on the state and the persons effected. The fiscal impact statement is a public record and will contain the total estimated economic impact of the proposed rule or regulation.

DEQ will give written notice to the Policy Research Office of the proposed date of preliminary adoption of the proposed rule or regulation not less than 60 days before that date.

The bill also requires DEQ to make a proposed rule or regulation available to the public not later than 60 days prior to the date of publication. The APA currently requires publication in a newspaper of general circulation 30 days prior to the public hearing.

BILL SUMMARIES: 2013 BILLS HELD IN COMMITTEE

LB 41 (Cook) Provide for permanent early voting request list and return of early voting ballots to polling places

LB 41 allows a registered voter to request to be included on a permanent list of voters to receive an application to request a ballot for early voting.

Prior to each election, the election commissioner or county clerk will mail to all voters who are eligible for the election and who are included on the permanent early voting request list, an application to request a ballot for early voting by nonforwardable mail that is marked with the statement required by the postmaster to receive an address correction notification. If the application is returned undeliverable, the election commissioner or county clerk will take steps to contact the voter to update the voter's address.

The voter will be sent the application to request an early ballot automatically until the voter asks to be removed, the voter's registration is canceled, or the application is returned undeliverable and the election commissioner or county clerk is not able to contact the voter. A voter may make written request at any time to be removed from the list.

The bill also allows a voter or his or her agent to deliver an early ballot to the precinct in which he or she resides not later than the closing of the polls on the day of the election. The clerk of the election will check that the voter's name appears on the precinct list and the voter will sign the register prior to handing the signed identification envelope to the judge for deposit in the ballot box. Current law only allows early ballots to be returned to the office of the election commissioner or county clerk.

LB 65 (Schilz) Authorize counties to set sheriff's fees and commissions

LB 65 requires the county board, beginning January 1, 2014, to set the rates of all necessary fees and commissions charged by the sheriff, with the advice and consultation of the sheriff.

The fees will be set by resolution of the county board subject to a public hearing.

LB 108 (Karpisek) Prohibit counties, cities, and villages from imposing credentialing requirements

Under LB 108, no county, city or village is authorized to require any person to be credentialed to conduct business or engage in any profession or occupation within its jurisdiction.

Credential includes license, certificate, registration, permit, and any other approval required by the state to engage in a specific profession or occupation. It does not include general approval required of businesses such as a sales and use tax collection permit or a business or occupation tax certificate.

This does not apply to the licensing of plumbers or the certification of air conditioning distribution contractors.

LB 127 (McGill) Provide for preregistration to vote for 16 and 17 year olds

LB 127 allows a person who is 16 years old or who is 17 years old and will not attain the age of 18 on or before the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of the current election year and who is otherwise qualified to register, to preregister to vote. The person will be automatically registered to vote upon reaching the age of eligibility after verification of his or her qualifications and address.

The Secretary of State and county election officials will make registration applications available to persons described above.

For a person who preregisters to vote, the voter registration record becomes effective 1) January 1 of the year during which such person is 17 years old and will attain the age of 18 on or before the first Tuesday after the First Monday in November, or 2) at his or her 18th birthday for any such person who attains the age of 18 after the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

Two weeks prior to the projected effective date of a person's voter registration, the election commissioner or county clerk will send a confirmation of registration to the person requesting that he or she verify qualifications and address as submitted in the application for preregistration.

Upon receipt by the election commissioner or county clerk of a complete and correct registration application and a confirmation of registration, the registrant will be a registered voter.

The Secretary of State is required to design and implement a process of preregistration for persons who are 16 or 17 years of age and will not attain the age of 18 on or before the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of the current year.

LB 160 (Schumacher) Provide for electronic signatures on recall, initiative, and referendum petitions

LB 160 states it is the intent of this legislation to facilitate the rights of the people to petition through the use of electronic signatures on petitions and the electronic verification of signatures on petitions used in the recall, initiative, and referendum process.

Under the bill, the Secretary of State will provide for the submission of electronic signatures for every petition unless the petition sponsor opts out of the use of electronic signatures. If the petition sponsor does not opt out, eligible signers may choose whether to submit their signatures electronically or sign the petition manually.

A petition sponsor who does not opt out shall pay a filing fee or file a qualifying affidavit. The filing fee will be \$10,000 for an initiative petition proposing a constitutional amendment and \$5000 for any other petition. If a petition sponsor cannot afford the filing fee, he or she may file a qualifying affidavit.

If an eligible signer signs a petition by an electronic signature, the Secretary of State and county election official will accept it and include it in the count necessary to validate the petition. No circulator signature or notarization will be required for electronic signatures. The bill outlines several requirements the electronic signature must meet in order to have the same force and effect as the use of a manual signature.

When the Secretary of State receives an electronic signature, he or she will mail a post card to the signer at the address on his or her voter registration address indicating the signature has been received. The signer has 10 days to indicate he or she did not submit the signature.

If the electronic signature cannot be correlated with the signer, the signer may request a petition be mailed to him or her. The Secretary of State will encrypt coding on a single signature petition form and mail it to the signer. No circulator signature or notarization will be required.

The Secretary of State is given several duties under this bill including: adopting rules and regulations to carry out the legislation and establishing a secure server located in Nebraska. They are also given authority to establish a verification database from state and county agencies and operate a secure web site account for the purpose of receiving credit card contributions.

Any person may challenge a petition containing electronic signatures. The bill outlines specific procedures for the person making the challenge.

The Petition Operations Fund is created to carry out the provisions of this legislation.

Finally, a person may become a registered participant and request that a link be placed on the web site created by the Secretary of State. The application will provide appropriate information on the link and include a registration fee of \$250 for each link. The link will provide information supporting or opposing a petition.

LB 183 (Karpisek) Provide for county board appointment of election commissioners

LB 183 changes how election commissioners in counties having a population of more than one hundred thousand inhabitants are appointed. With this bill, those

election commissioners will be appointed by the county board after the expiration of the term of each election commissioner serving on the effective date of this act.

Currently, election commissioners in counties having a population of more than one hundred thousand inhabitants are appointed by the Governor.

LB 206 (Schumacher) Require secret-ballot envelopes for mailed ballots

LB 206 provides for secret-ballot envelopes and return envelopes to be used for voting provisional ballots, ballots for early voting, special elections by mail, and ballots for new or former residents.

Secret-ballot envelopes are defined to mean an envelope that is provided to the voter that bears no characteristics that would identify the voter. The voter may place his or her voted ballot into the secret-ballot envelope before placing it in the return envelope to return the ballot.

Return envelopes are defined to mean the envelope delivered to a registered voter in which they place the secret-ballot envelope and accompanying materials.

The Secretary of State is required to adopt rules and regulations regarding the procedure of removing secret-ballot envelopes from return envelopes after verification of information on the return envelope; removing ballots from secret-ballot envelopes and return envelopes if a voter did not use the secret-ballot envelope; and counting the ballots in a manner that does not impair the anonymity of the voter.

This bill becomes operative on January 1, 2014.

LB 241 (Sullivan) Authorize voters to change election of county offices from partisan to nonpartisan

LB 241 allows a county board in counties with a population of 10,000 or fewer to adopt a resolution requiring the submission of the question to the voters whether county officers should be nominated and elected on a nonpartisan ballot.

Similarly, the registered voters of the county with a population of 10,000 or fewer may file a petition with the county clerk requesting the submission of the question whether county officers should be nominated and elected on a nonpartisan ballot. The signatures of registered voters on the petition will equal at least 5% of the registered voters in the county at the preceding statewide general election.

The question may also be submitted to the voters to change the nomination and election of county officers from a nonpartisan to a partisan ballot in the same manner as described above.

The question of changing the nomination and election of county officers will not be submitted to the voters more than once every three years.

LB 257 (McCoy) Change provisions relating to creation of municipal counties

LB 257 makes changes to the statutes relating to the creation of municipal counties.

Currently, the interjurisdictional planning commission, which prepares the plan for the creation of a municipal county, is made up of members representing the counties and municipalities involved. With LB 257, one member of the commission will represent agricultural landowners and one member will represent a fire protection district if at least one district exists within the county.

The bill requires the commission to hold three public hearings prior to preparing the plan for the creation of a municipal county. Current law requires only one public hearing.

Also, the bill adds specificity as to what will be included in the plan, such as: a complete study of governmental subdivision functions; a determination of duplicated functions; a listing of current interlocal agreements; a determination of what functions and services will be merged; the current number of full-time employees; an actuarial analysis of changes to employee benefits resulting from the creation of a municipal county; an analysis of the total cost of the merger; any legislative changes needed; and descriptions of possible ways the municipal county could be structured.

Currently, if the commission finds the merger is in the public's interest, it will create one plan for the creation of a municipal county. This bill adds several items to be included in the plan, including what functions will be eliminated, any services to be merged, the change in the number of employees, changes to employee benefits, the total cost, and any legislative changes needed.

LB 292 (Karpisek) Change population restrictions for conducting elections by mail

LB 292 expands the number of counties eligible for conducting elections by mail to counties with less than 20,000 inhabitants. Current law allows counties with less than 10,000 inhabitants to apply to the Secretary of State to conduct elections by mail.

LB 294 (Seiler) Change provisions relating to use of public resources by public officials and public employees

LB 294 provides an exemption to the prohibition of public officials or employees using public resources for the purpose of campaigning for or against a candidate or the qualification, passage or defeat of a ballot question.

The bill provides that nothing prohibits a public official who is a member of a government body and acting under the direction of the government body or a public employee who works for a public official or government body who is acting under the direction of either from communicating authorized information for the purpose of educating the public or from participating in a public forum, concerning issues germane to the office or employment of the public official or employee.

LB 381 (Janssen) Require photographic identification to vote

LB 381 provides that no ballot will be handed to any voter in an election until the voter has presented a government-issued photographic identification or the voter votes a provisional ballot.

Government-issued photographic identification is defined in the bill as a motor vehicle operator's license, state identification card, a document issued by the United States showing the name and photograph of the individual, or any other document that is issued by a government entity, has the photograph of the individual and is approved pursuant to the rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the Secretary of State.

If a voter does not present photographic identification, he or she may vote a provisional ballot.

There are some exceptions to the photo ID requirement. For example, in elections held by mail, registered voters are not required to present photo ID before being issued a ballot. Also under the bill, voters who vote an early ballot are not required to show identification.

Currently, there are identification requirements for persons who register to vote by mail and are voting in Nebraska for the first time. LB 381 requires such voters to provide government-issued photographic identification. Section 32-318.01 dealing with when identification documents are required currently is outright repealed.

Finally, the bill provides that an applicant for a state identification card who indicates he or she is indigent and in need of a state identification card for the purposes of voting will be issued such a card at no cost.

LB 448 (Avery) Prohibit contributions by lobbyists to candidates or members of the Legislature during legislative session

LB 448 prohibits principals, lobbyists, or persons acting on behalf of either from making a contribution to any member of the Legislature or candidate for the Legislature while the legislature is in session.

This provision does not apply to a gift if it is not reportable as a contribution as provided in the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act.

LB 450 (Avery) Change political party convention and caucus provisions

LB 450 clarifies the role of the county clerk or election commissioner when a political party decides to caucus to elect delegates to the county convention.

Under LB 450, if delegates to the county postprimary convention are chosen at caucuses, the county party central committee will be responsible for notifying each person chosen as a delegate at the caucuses of the time and place of the county postprimary convention. Currently in law, the election commissioner or county clerk issues certificates of election to each person elected as a delegate to the county postprimary convention and notifies each person elected of the time and place of the convention.

If a political party decides to use the caucus system, the state central committee will notify the Secretary of State of the date of the caucus no later than January 1. Once the date has been set, any filing form for a candidate who has filed as a delegate for that party's postprimary convention with the county clerk or election commissioner will be deemed null and void. No additional county convention delegate filing forms for that political party will be accepted by the county clerk or election commissioner.

LB 509 (Murante) Change election of learning community coordinating council

LB 509 makes several changes to the learning community coordinating council.

Beginning with the learning community coordinating council elected in 2014, each learning community will be governed by a coordinating council consisting of one member elected from each school district that is a member of the learning community. Each voter will cast votes for one candidate at both the primary and general elections to represent the school district in which the voter resides.

Under current law, the coordinating council consists of 18 members. Twelve members are elected from subcouncil districts and six members are appointed.

With the bill, the terms of the elected and appointed members of the current coordinating council will expire when the learning community coordinating council is elected in 2014. The terms of the current nonvoting members will also expire at that time.

LB 509 requires the coordinating council to divide the territory of the new learning community into six numbered districts for the purpose of organizing achievement subcouncils. Each achievement subcouncil will consist of three members selected by the coordinating council. Currently, each achievement subcouncil consists of three voting coordinating council members representing the subcouncil district plus any nonvoting coordinating council members.

LB 515 (Carlson) Change provisions relating to irrigation district elections

LB 515 defines elector under the Irrigation District Act as any resident of the State of Nebraska, owning not less than 15 acres of land or who is an entryman of government land, within any irrigation district or proposed district. An elector is also any resident of the state holding a leasehold estate in not less than 40 acres of land with the district for a period of not less than 5 years. Under the Irrigation District Act, only electors are allowed to vote.

For any irrigation district election, a person whose ownership or right to vote becomes of record or is received as of a date designated by the county clerk or by the secretary of the irrigation district board may vote at the election.

The bill outlines when electors are allowed to vote in the following circumstances: joint tenants, tenants in common, corporations or limited liability corporations, life estates which involve ownership, land-purchase contracts, and trusts and other estates.

If two or more people officials claim conflicting rights to vote on the same acreage, the election board, if any, or the secretary of the board of directors, will determine the party entitled to vote.

The bill also allows the board of directors to determine whether to hold the regular election of the district by mail. The bill outlines the procedures for conducting an election by mail.

LB 521 (Christensen) Require cities and villages and other public bodies that maintain web sites to publish ordinances and other information as prescribed

LB 521 requires any municipality that maintains an official web site to publish all of its ordinances on that website. New or amended ordinances will be published on the web site within 7 days after passage.

The bill also amends the public meeting statutes to provide that if a public body maintains an official web site, the notice and agenda of their meetings will be published on that web site.

LB 632 (Bolz) Change funding for county offices relating to public assistance programs

Under current law, counties are required to maintain office and service facilities used for the administration of public assistance programs at the counties expense. LB 632 requires the state to pay the cost for the office and service facilities used for the administration of the public assistance programs.

The bill also outright repeals section 81-1139.01 that provides for the rental rate on the Stone Office Building at the Norfolk Regional Center.

RESOLUTION SUMMARIES: 2013 RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

LR 38 (Avery) Endorse Taiwan's participation in the International Civil Aviation Organization as an observer and support efforts to grant Taiwan official observer status at the United National Framework Convention on Climate Change

LR 38 provides that the Legislature endorse Taiwan's participation in the International Civil Aviation Organization as an observer.

The resolution also provides that the Legislature is supportive of all efforts to grant Taiwan official observer status at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and as a collaborative partner of the United States on a wide range of public issues, Taiwan should be afforded the opportunity to participate in global efforts aimed at reducing and preventing natural disasters.

The committee amendment eliminates all references to granting Taiwan official observer status at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

When the resolution was debated on the floor, the provisions regarding Climate Change were put back into the resolution.

RESOLUTION SUMMARIES: 2013 RESOLUTIONS HELD IN COMMITTEE

LR 12CA (Harms) Constitutional amendment to authorize a county manager form of county government

LR 12CA amends Article IX, section 4 of the constitution to allow the Legislature to provide by law for a county manager form of county government in which county officers may be appointed. This form of government will be optional for each county and will occur only after a majority vote.

LR 23 (Avery) Memorialize Congress to support a constitutional amendment responding to the U.S. Supreme Court decision in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission

LR 23 provides that the Legislature support an amendment to the United States Constitution that would clarify several misinterpretations of the Constitution by divided actions of the United States Supreme Court that culminated in the Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission case.

The amendment should make clear that corporations have only the privileges bestowed upon them by their charters and by state and federal law and the rights of their shareholders. The amendment will also clarify that money is property and not speech.

BILL SUMMARIES: 2014 BILLS ENACTED

LB 661 (Krist) Provide for voter registration on the Secretary of State's website and use of Department of Motor Vehicles records

LB 661 requires the Secretary of State to develop and implement a statewide registration application process on or before July 1, 2015 to register to vote and update voter registration records electronically using the Secretary of State's website.

An applicant who has a driver's license or state identification card may use the electronic application process to register or update his or her registration. The Secretary of State will obtain a copy of the electronic representation of the applicant's signature from the Department of Motor Vehicles' (DMV) records of his or her driver's license or state identification card for voter registration purposes.

An applicant who submits his or her application electronically agrees to the use of his or her signature from the DMV. To vote on Election Day, the completed application must be submitted on or before the third Friday before the election. This date is similar to other registration deadlines in the Election Act.

The bill also requires the DMV, in conjunction with the Secretary of State, to develop and implement a process to electronically transmit voter registration application information to the election commissioner or county clerk of the county where the applicant resides.

Finally, the DMV will furnish social security numbers to the Secretary of State for purposes of the Election Act. The DMV will also release digital signatures to the Secretary of State for the purposes of voter registration. No employee or official from the Secretary of State's office will release a digital signature except to law enforcement or a driver licensing agency of another state.

The committee amendment clarifies how and when the Department of Motor Vehicles will electronically transmit voter registration application materials to the election commissioners and county clerks.

With the amendment, the current system of delivering voter registration application materials to the election commissioner or county clerk will be used until the implementation date designated by the Director of Motor Vehicles. The implementation date will be on or before January 1, 2016.

After the new process is implemented, the voter registration application materials will be transmitted electronically to the election commissioners and county clerks. It will be transmitted not later than 10 days after receipt.

Each voter registration application electronically submitted will include information provided by the applicant that includes whether the applicant is a citizen, whether the applicant is of sufficient age, the applicant's address, date of birth, party affiliation or an

indication the applicant is not affiliated with a party, the applicant's motor vehicle operator's license number, previous registration location, and the applicant's signature. The committee amendment also eliminates references to county treasurers and license examiners from the Department of Motor vehicles as persons who process voter registration application materials.

LB 719 (Crawford) Require a report and change complaint procedures regarding rules and regulations

LB 719 makes changes to the Administrative Procedures Act.

With the bill, an agency is required to attach to a proposed rule or regulation a written report that includes a summary of the testimony offered at the public hearing. The report will list any specific issues or questions that were presented at the hearing or in written testimony.

The report will also include a response from the agency proposing the regulatory change to the questions and issues that were presented as part of the public hearing.

The report will be submitted to the Executive Board of the Legislature.

The committee amendment provides that after the written report is submitted to the Executive Board, the chair or committee staff member of the Executive Board will refer each written report for review to the chair of the standing committee which has subject matter jurisdiction over the issue and if practicable, to the legislator who was the primary sponsor of the bill or amendment that granted the agency the rulemaking authority.

Portions/Provisions of LB 720 (Executive Board) were amended into LB 719.

LB 737 (Dubas) Change qualifications for county veterans service officers

LB 737 removes the five year residency requirement for county veterans' service officers. With the bill, county veterans' service officers are only required to be a resident of the State of Nebraska but does not specify the length of residency.

The bill also removes the five year residency requirements for members of the county veterans' service committees and the personnel of the county veterans' service offices. With the bill, those members and personnel are only required to be a resident of the State of Nebraska but does not specify the length of residency.

The committee amendment changes the residency requirement for county veterans' service officers to one year. The one year residency requirement may be waived if there is no applicant in the county who has been a resident of the State for at least one year.

The members of the county veterans' service committee and the personnel of the county veterans' service office will also have a residency requirement of one year.

LB 744 (Avery) Establish the Nebraska Sesquicentennial Commission

LB 744 establishes the Nebraska Sesquicentennial Commission consisting of 17 members appointed by the Governor. The Commission will develop programs and plans for the observance of the 150th anniversary of Nebraska statehood in 2017. The Commission will terminate on June 30, 2018.

The Commission will include members from all regions of the state, representing all major interests and industries. No more than eight of the members will be affiliated with the same political party.

The Commission will work with various state agencies, including the Department of Education, the Department of Roads, the Nebraska State Historical Society, the Nebraska State Fair Board, the Game and Parks Commission and the Nebraska Tourism Commission to execute commemorative events and implement educational activities.

The Commission may employ personnel, contract for services, and receive and expend gifts and donations to aid in the performance of its duties.

The bill becomes operative on July 1, 2014.

The committee amendment makes two changes to the bill.

The first change houses the Nebraska Sesquicentennial Commission within the Nebraska State Historical Society for administrative and budgetary purposes only.

Secondly, the amendment empowers the commission to expend any appropriations authorized by the Legislature to carry out the purposes of this act.

The bill was amended on Select File to allow the Commission to accept grants.

LB 766 (Bloomfield) Change tuition assistance program provisions for National Guard members

LB 766 makes changes to the tuition assistance program for National Guard members.

Under current law, the Adjutant General may extend the entitlement period for a National Guard member if the member is deployed on federal or state active-duty status. LB 766 clarifies that during the extended entitlement period, the member will be subject to all remaining conditions and limitations of the tuition assistance program.

The bill also clarifies that the tuition assistance program is not available to any member who has a baccalaureate degree and any member who has not exhausted federal tuition assistance benefits available to him or her.

LB 792 (Sullivan) Eliminate a report requirement by the county treasurers to the State Treasurer

LB 792 eliminates the requirement that county treasurers file a report to the State Treasurer semiannually. The report includes information on the amount of money collected on behalf of school districts from all sources, the amount received on account of licenses and fines and from all other sources, and a statement showing the amount paid out, to whom, and on what account.

LB 806 (Avery) Change provisions of the Military Code relating to Military Department personnel

LB 806 makes several technical changes to Military Department statutes.

The bill eliminates the position of chief of staff of the Military Department and adds the option of the Adjutant General appointing a civilian deputy director.

If the Adjutant General appoints a civilian deputy director, the Adjutant General may, when the Adjutant General is absent, delegate the authority to perform the military duties to any active officer of the Nebraska National Guard who holds the minimum grade of colonel.

If both the Adjutant General and the deputy adjutant general or the civilian deputy director are absent, the military duties may be delegated to any active officer of the Nebraska National Guard who holds the minimum rank of colonel. The state duties may be delegated to any member of the Adjutant General's appointed executive staff.

Finally, the bill provides that the deputy adjutant general is not required to take leave or a reduction in salary when performing his or her federal duties except when called to active duty of the United States in support of missions authorized by the President of the United States or the Secretary of Defense.

LB 937 (Karpisek) Change quorum requirements for county boards of supervisors

LB 937 changes what constitutes a quorum for a board of supervisors from two-thirds to a majority of all the board members.

LB 946 (Murante) Change provisions relating to bond elections, county surveyor elections, school board elections, administration and conduct of elections, vacancies, presidential electors, and threshold amounts under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act

LB 946 makes several changes to the Election Act.

LB 946 provides that the persons appointed to the counting board for the purpose of counting ballots for school district bonds will receive wages at no less than the minimum wage for each hour of service.

The bill eliminates the requirement that election commissioners not become candidates for office within 6 months after leaving office.

Chief deputy election commissioners will take and subscribe an oath before entering their duties.

The bill allows a special election for a Class IV or V school district to be held in conjunction with the primary or general election for a city of the primary or metropolitan class which is governed by a home rule charter.

The filing fee for the office of US Senator, state officers, Representatives of Congress, county officers, and city or village officers is the sum equal to one percent of the annual salary as of November 30 of the year preceding the election for the office for which he or she files as a candidate. Current language bases the filing fee on the salary the candidate will receive if he or she is elected.

In a special election by mail, the election commissioner or county clerk may choose not to mail a ballot to all registered voters who have been sent a notice under section 32-239 and failed to respond. If the ballots are not mailed to such voters, the election commissioner or county clerk will mail a notice to all such registered voters explaining how to obtain a ballot. Section 32-329 deals with voters who have indicated they have moved and have been sent a confirmation letter by the election official.

The deadline for delivering a statement to the election commissioner or county clerk in special elections when a ballot is destroyed, spoiled, lost, or not received is changed from noon to 5 p.m. on the date of the election.

Under the bill, election commissioners or county clerks will make public any record or list of registered voters who have returned their ballots during a special election by mail. Current law prohibits such lists being made public until after the election.

Finally, the bill includes the overtime costs of all permanent employees of the election commissioner or county clerk relating to elections to the list of expenses chargeable to the political subdivisions in which such elections are held.

The committee amendment contains several provisions, including the provisions of four legislative bills.

First, the committee amendment reinstates language prohibiting an election commissioner from holding elective office or becoming a candidate for elective office within six months after leaving office.

Second, the amendment changes the time when a voter may receive a replacement early ballot. With the change, the voter will return the statement declaring the original early ballot

was lost or destroyed to the office of the election commissioner or county clerk by 8 p.m. on the day of the election. The current time is noon.

The amendment also changes back reporting thresholds in the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act. For example, the amendment changes reporting thresholds for contributions from “\$250 or more” to “more than \$250.” Other thresholds being changed from “or more” to “more than” include: expenditures, loans, independent expenditures, out-of-state contributions, and when a committee is formed and subject to the Accountability and Disclosure Act.

Provisions of LB 726:

LB 726 changes the number of school board members for Class II and Class III school districts.

The school board of a Class II school district will have no fewer than five members and no more than nine members. Currently, Class II school districts have six members.

The number of members to be elected at the statewide general election and the terms for which they will be elected will be determined by the county election official with the aid of the secretary of the school board. Terms will be staggered so that approximately half of the members are elected to the board at the general election for four year terms.

The school board of a Class III school district will have no fewer than five members and no more than nine members. Currently, Class III school districts have either six or nine members.

The school board of a Class II or III school district may, by resolution adopted in an odd-numbered year, provide for a change in the number of members on the school board to a minimum of five and a maximum of nine. The change will be effective at the beginning of the term of office for school board members elected at the next statewide general election.

LB 726 outlines what needs to be included in the resolution including: the change in the number of members to be added or eliminated; when the changes take effect; and whether the members are nominated or elected by district or ward.

Provisions of LB 743:

LB 743 provides that the term of any person elected to serve a four-year term in a governmental body starts on the day of the meeting of the body at which members are sworn in to office. The second half of the term starts on the day of the meeting of the body at which members are sworn in to office in the second calendar year after the term begins.

These provisions do not apply to the State Board of Education.

Provisions of LB 833:

Except when county offices are consolidated, in each county having a population of less than 150,000 inhabitants, the question of electing a county surveyor in the county will be submitted to the voters of the county at the statewide general election in 2020.

If a majority of votes cast are against the election of a county surveyor, the office of county surveyor will cease as an elected office. The office will be filled by the county board employing a surveyor on a part-time or full-time basis.

If a majority of the votes cast are in favor of the election of a county surveyor, the office will continue to be elected. If there is no county surveyor in the office, a county surveyor will be elected at the next general election.

The provisions of LB 833 also provide that if a county has an elected surveyor in office on January 1, 2020, the county board may, prior to February 1, 2020, following a public hearing, adopt a resolution to continue to elect the county surveyor and not to submit the question to the voters at the statewide general election in 2020.

A county board, beginning in 2021, may submit the question of electing a county surveyor to the registered voters if the county board adopts a resolution or a petition is signed by at least 10% of the registered voters. The form of the submission upon the ballot will be: for election of county surveyor; against election of county surveyor. If a majority of the votes are against the election of a county surveyor, the office will cease as an elected office and the county board will employ a surveyor. If a majority of votes are in favor of the election of a county surveyor, the office will continue to be elected, or if there is no elected surveyor in office, the surveyor will be elected at the next statewide general election.

Provisions of LB 1084:

LB 1084 adds cities to section 32-567 and provides that vacancies in the office of city council will be filled according to section 32-568 or 32-569, as applicable. Section 32-568 and 32-569 deal with who fills vacancies and the procedure for filling the vacancies in municipalities.

Finally, the amendment adds a severability clause and an operative date of January 1, 2015.

The bill was further amended on General File. One amendment contained the provisions of LB 167 which changes balloting and vacancy provisions for presidential electors. With the bill, presidential electors will execute a pledge agreeing to mark their ballots for President and Vice President of the party that selected them. A presidential elector who refuses to present a ballot, presents an unmarked ballot, or presents a ballot marked in violation of his or her pledge vacates the office of presidential ballot. This creates a vacancy which the Governor will fill.

Another amendment contained the provisions of LB 219. Those provisions include that any registered voter who was not a candidate in the primary election and who was not registered to vote with a party affiliation on or after March 1 and before the general election in the calendar year of the general election, may have his or her name placed on the general election ballot for a partisan race by petition or nomination by political party.

On Select File, amendments were adopted that clarified provisions regarding how to define the second half of a term of office for a member of the Legislature, county surveyor appointments and residency requirements, procedures for selecting a chief deputy election commissioner, and Class III school districts which already have nine-member boards.

LB 1048 (Murante) Require delivery of the official election calendar and change and eliminate political party provisions

LB 1048 makes several changes to Chapter 7 of the Election Act.

The bill requires political parties to file a copy of the party's plan for selecting national convention delegates with the Secretary of State by December 1 of the year prior to the presidential election.

The delegate selection plan will:

- require that at least 80% of the delegates are committed for President based on the results of the caucus or primary election;
- specify whether the delegates are committed to a candidate for President based on the results of a caucus system or a primary election;
- specify how the delegates are committed for purposes of voting for President based on the results of the caucus or primary system; and
- provide that the delegates are either awarded to the winner of the caucus or primary or awarded proportionally, based on the number of votes received by each presidential candidate who received at least 15% of the votes for the nomination.

Current law allows a political party to adopt a rules requiring that any individual on the party's partisan primary election ballot be a registered voter of that party. This bill adds language stating that if the political party adopts or revokes this rule and notifies the Secretary of State prior to December 1 in the year before the primary election, the rule or revocation is effective for the next and subsequent statewide primary elections. If the rules or revocation is filed after December 1, the rule or revocation is effective for the subsequent state primary elections.

Any person seeking to be elected as a delegate to the national convention of a political party is required to submit a filing form regardless of the method of election used by the political party. The filing form includes a statement of commitment and a pledge swearing to support the candidate for President to which the candidate is committed.

Political parties may conduct county conventions at an hour and place designated by a political party. The party may elect to have delegates to the county convention register with the election commissioner. If they so elect, the delegates will register on or before March 1 of each year the party conducts a county convention. The election commissioner and county clerk will deliver to the state chair of a political party the roll of delegates no later than March 15 of each presidential election year.

The bill also provides a process for a political party to dissolve. If a political party chooses to dissolve, it will file a notice with the Secretary of State. The notice will be filed by the executive committee or state central committee, or if no such committee exists, by an officer of the political party. If the notice is filed before December 1, the Secretary of State will not

accept any filings for the political party or place the political party on the state primary election ballot.

Finally, the following sections are outright repealed: Section 32-706 dealing with the process of selecting alternative delegates to the national convention; Section 32-708 concerning county postprimary conventions; Section 32-709 dealing with county conventions and delegates elected at precinct caucuses; and 32-711 dealing with the time and place of congressional district postprimary conventions.

The committee amendment adds two provisions to the bill.

The first provision requires the Secretary of State to deliver a copy of the official election calendar to the state party headquarters of each recognized political party within 10 days after publication of the calendar.

Secondly, the amendment allows the delegate selection plan to specify whether the delegates are committed to a candidate for President based on the results of a combination of a caucus system and a statewide primary election.

BILL SUMMARIES: 2014 BILLS ON GENERAL FILE

LB 718 (Crawford) Change procedures for adoption of rules and regulations and require publication of certain information

LB 718 requires each state agency to prepare a semiannual agenda for rules and regulations under development or review or planned development or review. Each agency will file a certified copy of the agenda with the Secretary of State 30 days after the end of each regular legislation session and by October 15th.

The Secretary of State will make a permanent file of all agendas which will be updated and kept current and open to public inspection.

Under the bill, an agency may not adopt, amend, or repeal a rule or regulation that is not included on the agenda except when the proposed rule or regulation is 1) in response to a natural disaster, 2) required by federal law, 3) related to the loss or access to additional federal funds, or 4) as a result of a state or federal court decision.

The bill also makes changes to the public hearing notice requirements of agencies proposing to adopt, amend, or repeal a rule or regulation. The notice will include the identification of the specific authorizing statute and the specific statute interpreted or implemented by the rule and regulation. It also requires the fiscal impact statement to be available on the Secretary of State's web site.

Finally, the Secretary of State will maintain a list of subscribers who wish to receive notice of the filing of an agenda for rules and regulations under development or review. Currently, the Secretary of State maintains a list of subscribers who wish to receive notice of public hearings on rules and regulations.

The committee amendment makes two changes to the bill.

First, the committee amendment adds language clarifying that a declaration of emergency must be made by the Governor or the President of the United States. Secondly, the amendment adds loss of state funds, in addition to loss of federal funds, as a reason to adopt a rule or regulation that has not appeared on an agenda.

LB 726 (Scheer) Provide for changing the number of school board members in Class II or Class III school districts

LB 726 changes the number of school board members for Class II and Class III school districts.

With the bill, the school board of a Class II school district will have no fewer than five members and no more than nine members. Currently, Class II school districts have six members.

The number of members to be elected at the statewide general election and the terms for which they will be elected will be determined by the county election official with the aid of the secretary of the school board. Terms will be staggered so that approximately half of the members are elected to the board at the general election for four year terms.

The school board of a Class III school district will have no fewer than five members and no more than nine members. Currently, Class III school districts have either six or nine members.

The school board of a Class II or III school district may, by resolution adopted in an odd-numbered year, provide for a change in the number of members on the school board to a minimum of 5 and a maximum of nine. The change will be effective at the beginning of the term of office for school board members elected at the next statewide general election.

The bill outlines what needs to be included in the resolution including: the change in the number of members to be added or eliminated; when the changes take effect; and whether the members are nominated or elected by district or ward.

Portions/Provisions of LB 726 were amended into LB 946

LB 743 (Murante) Provide definition of one-half of an elected term of office

LB 743 provides that the term of any person elected to serve a four-year term in a governmental body starts on the day of the meeting of the body at which members are sworn in to office. The second half of the term starts on the day of the meeting of the body at which members are sworn in to office in the second calendar year after the term begins.

These provisions do not apply to the State Board of Education.

Portions/Provisions of LB 743 were amended into LB 946

LB 745 (Avery) Change various provisions relating to administrative governmental functions

LB 745 makes several changes to statutes relating to the Department of Administrative Services.

First, the bill changes the date when agencies are required to submit to the Governor a report of its proposed building renewal projects. With the change, the report is due on September 15th of each even-numbered year. Currently, the reports are due December 15th of each year.

Secondly, the bill changes the process for lost warrants. With the bill, an officer authorized to issue warrants have the authority to issue a replacement warrant. The current language requires a duplicate warrant, numbered the same as original, with the word “duplicate” printed in red ink. The current system does not allow for issuing a duplicate warrant with the same number.

Next, the bill changes the term “state-owned vehicles” to “state-owned passenger cars” in section 81-1018 requiring that vehicles purchased, leased or rented be of the intermediate, compact or subcompact class. In 2012, the term “passenger cars” was changed to “state-owned vehicles” in a bill to allow the state to rent passenger cars. In section 81-1018, the use of the term “state-owned vehicles” eliminated the ability to have pick-up trucks and vans in the Transportation Services Bureau fleet. This bill changes the term back to passenger cars thereby eliminating the issue inadvertently caused by the 2012 bill.

Finally, the bill allows the Materiel Division to purchase service contracts without going through the competitive bidding process if the price for the service has been established by the federal General Services Administration or competitively bid by a group of states. These contracts will still be required to complete the proof of need analysis if they are over \$15 million.

Portions/Provisions of LB 745 were amended into LB 974 (Appropriations Committee)

LB 746 (Avery) Change election provisions to authorize provisional ballots and require identification for certain voters

LB 746 provides that if a voter has moved from one residence to another within the state, the voter will be entitled to vote provisionally after providing verification of his or her current address.

Currently, voters who move within the county in which they are registered to vote are allowed to vote provisionally. This bill allows someone who moves from one county to a different county in Nebraska to vote provisionally in their new county of residence.

This act becomes operative on January 1, 2015.

LB 772 (Davis) Increase expenditure amount for Adjutant General for aerial fire suppression or hazardous material response

LB 772 increases the amount the Adjutant General may expend on aerial fire suppression or hazardous material response to \$25,000 per event without a state of emergency proclamation by the Governor. The current amount is \$10,000 per event.

Portions/Provisions of LB 772 were amended into LB 390 (Judiciary Committee)

LB 804 (Avery) Change and eliminate procedures for filling vacancies and removal of certain gubernatorial appointees

LB 804 changes the removal process for the Tax Commissioner and the executive director for the Crime Commission.

With the bill, language is removed which provides for a public hearing if the Governor decides to remove either the Tax Commissioner or the executive director of the Crime Commission.

LB 817 (Haar) Change membership provisions relating to public power district boards

With LB 817, a full-time or part-time employee of a public power district cannot serve as a member of the board of directors of any public power districts unless the person resigns or assumes an unpaid leave of absence.

The bill also eliminates language that allowed a director of a rural public power district to serve as a director of another public power district formed for the purpose of generating electric energy or transmitting electric energy exclusively for resale to other public power districts, rural electric cooperatives, and membership associations or municipalities.

LB 825 (Lautenbaugh) Require Open Meeting Act compliance by boards and subcommittees subject to the Nebraska Workforce Investment Act

LB 825 requires the Nebraska Workforce Investment Board and its subcommittees to be subject to the Open Meetings Act.

The bill also requires local workforce investment boards and its subcommittees, including the youth council, to be subject to the Open Meetings Act.

LB 833 (Dubas) Change selection provisions for county surveyors

Except when county offices are consolidated, in each county having a population of less than 150,000 inhabitants, the question of electing a county surveyor in the county will be submitted to the voters of the county at the statewide general election in 2020.

If a majority of votes cast are against the election of a county surveyor, the office of county surveyor will cease as an elected office. The office will be filled by the county board employing a surveyor on a part-time or full-time basis.

If a majority of the votes cast are in favor of the election of a county surveyor, the office will continue to be elected. If there is no county surveyor in the office, a county surveyor will be elected at the next general election.

The committee amendment adds two provisions to the bill.

First, the amendment provides that if a county has an elected surveyor in office on January 1, 2020, the county board may, prior to February 1, 2020, following a public hearing, adopt a resolution to continue to elect the county surveyor and not to submit the question to the voters at the statewide general election in 2020.

Secondly, the amendment allows a county board, beginning in 2021, to submit the question of electing a county surveyor to the registered voters if the county board adopts a resolution or a petition is signed by at least 10% of the registered voters of the county. The form of the submission upon the ballot will be: for election of county surveyor; against election of county surveyor.

If a majority of the votes are against the election of a county surveyor, the office will cease as an elected office and the county board will employ a surveyor. If a majority of votes are in favor of the election of a county surveyor, the office will continue to be elected, or if there is no elected surveyor in office, the surveyor will be elected at the next statewide general election.

Portions/Provisions of LB 833 were amended into LB 946

LB 845 (Schilz) Provide for regulation of meteorological evaluation towers

LB 845 requires a meteorological evaluation tower, the height of which is at least 50 feet but not more than 200 feet above the surface of the ground at point of installation, to be marked as follows:

- Painted in bands of aviation orange and white;
- Have two or more marker balls attached to each outer guy wire; and
- Have a yellow safety sleeve installed on each outer guy wire.

These provisions only apply to a tower located outside the corporate limits of a municipality.

The owner of a meteorological evaluation tower will, not less than 10 business days prior to erecting the tower, register with the Department of Aeronautics the name of the owner, height and location, and any other information deemed necessary. The owner will also report removal of the tower not more than 30 days after removal.

If a meteorological evaluation tower was erected prior to the effective date of this act, the owner will mark the tower as prescribed within one year. The owner will register the tower within 15 business days of the effective date of the act.

The Department of Aeronautics may adopt rules and regulations to carry out the purposes of this section.

The bill outright repeals section 66-1901 dealing with registration of wind measurement equipment with the Department of Aeronautics.

The committee amendment makes several changes to the bill.

The committee amendment requires meteorological evaluation towers (METs) that are at least 50 feet above the surface to comply with the provisions of LB 845.

The amendment changes several of the marking requirements for METs. With the amendment, only the top half of the tower needs to be painted. Also, spherical marker balls attached to each outer guy wire will be no further than 20 feet from the top wire connection. The tower will have yellow safety sleeves installed on each outer guy wire extending at least 14 feet above the anchor point of the guy wire.

Also, an owner of a tower erected prior to the effective date of this act which is either lighted, marked with balls, painted, or modified in some manner so it is recognizable during daylight hours from a distance of not less than 2000 feet, will mark the tower within two years after the effective date of this act or at such time the tower is taken down for maintenance or other purposes, whichever occurs first. The owner of a tower erected prior to the effective date of this act which is not lighted, marked, painted or modified will mark the tower as required by this act within 90 days after the effective date of this act.

The registration requirements will be performed by the owner of a tower erected prior to the effective date of this act within 15 business days after the effective date of this act.

A material failure to comply with the marking and registration requirements of this section will be admissible as evidence of negligence on the part of the owner of a MET in an action in tort for property damage, bodily injury, or death resulting from an aerial collision with the unmarked or unregistered tower.

Finally, the amendment adds an e-clause.

LB 935 (Gloor) Require legislative approval to move state services

LB 935 requires a state agency that seeks to move a state service from one jurisdiction to another that is projected to cost or have a fiscal impact of \$15 million or more to submit information to the Executive Board. The information will include:

- A description of the proposed move;
- Justification for the proposed move;
- A review of the long term costs, if any;
- Measureable goals for improving the service;
- An assessment of the feasibility of alternatives to moving the service;
- Any known or foreseeable legal, environmental or other issues related to the move; and
- A description of economic development efforts to use the facility abandoned by the move.

In calculating the long-term cost, the state agency will project for 12 months and 60 months the direct and indirect costs of providing the state service in the new jurisdiction, any

continuing, additional, or transitional costs of providing the service in the new jurisdiction, and the capital construction costs.

The Executive Board will refer the information submitted by the state agency to the chair of the standing committee of the Legislature which has subject matter jurisdiction over the state service to be moved.

The standing committee will investigate the move and hold a hearing. The standing committee will then introduce a resolution that approves, disapproves, or takes no position on the proposed move.

Any move of a state service will be approved by the Legislature prior to implementation. If the Legislature approves the move by resolution or takes no position, the state agency may move the service. If the Legislature disapproves the move, the state agency will not move the service.

The bill defines jurisdiction, state agency and state service.

LB 935 applies to any move of a state service proposed on or after January 1, 2013, except that if the move was proposed prior to the effective date of this act, this section will not apply if all sources of funding for the move have been secured or have been conditionally approved by the effective date of this act.

The committee amendment removes the provision that applied the bill retroactively to January 1, 2013. With the amendment, the bill will now apply to a move of a state service after the effective date of this act.

LB 935 failed to advance from General File.

LB 980 (Johnson) Change provisions relating to termination of a township board

LB 980 provides that if two or more vacancies exist on a township board and the county board has made reasonable attempts but has been unable to fill the vacancies within 45 days after the vacancies occur, the county board will hold a public hearing on the termination of the township board.

Current law allows for termination of a township board when two or more township board positions are vacant and the county board has been unable to fill those positions for six or more months.

The bill also allows the county board to adopt a resolution to terminate the township board if no appointment is made within 45 days after the public hearing because no resident has provided notice that he or she will serve on the township board. Currently, the time frame is 30 days after the public hearing.

The county board will levy a tax on the property located in the township to pay for future obligations of the township until such time as the township board may become reactivated.

LB 1037 (McGill) Authorize Auditor of Public Accounts to examine certain entities formed under the Interlocal Cooperation Act

LB 1037 authorizes the Auditor of Public Accounts to examine the accounts and expenditures any entity formed under the Interlocal Cooperation Act consisting of more than one natural resources district. These examinations are paid for by the entity being examined.

LB 1058 (Larson) Adopt the Interstate Compact on the Agreement Among the States to Elect the President by National Popular Vote

LB 1058 creates the Interstate Compact on the Agreement Among the States to Elect the President by National Popular Vote. The compact will become effective when states cumulatively possessing a majority of the electoral votes have enacted this compact.

The chief election official of each member state will designate the presidential slate with the largest national popular vote total as the national popular vote winner. The presidential elector certifying official of each member state will certify the appointment in that official's own state of the elector slate nominated in that state in association with the national popular vote winner.

Each state which has adopted the compact will make a determination of the number of popular votes cast in the state and communicate that determination to each other member state.

The compact outlines the procedure in the event of a tie and gives the presidential national popular vote winner the power to nominate the presidential electors in some circumstances. It also outlines the procedure for withdrawing from the agreement.

LB 1084 (Garrett) Change provisions governing the filling of certain vacancies

LB 1084 provides that vacancies in the office of city council will be filled according to section 32-568 or 32-569, as applicable. Section 32-568 and 32-569 deal with who fills vacancies and the procedure for filling the vacancies in municipalities.

Current law provides that vacancies shall be filled within 45 days after the vacancy occurs unless good cause is shown that it imposes an undue burden. This bill eliminates the language allowing for good cause shown.

The committee amendment reinstates the language allowing an exception to the 45 day requirement to fill a vacancy if good cause is shown that the requirement imposes an undue burden.

Portions/Provisions of LB 1084 were amended into LB 946

BILL SUMMARIES: 2014 BILLS HELD IN COMMITTEE

LB 676 (Chambers) Change filing and enforcement provisions of the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act

LB 676 makes several changes to the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act.

First, the bill requires each committee, other than a political party committee, to submit a statement of the account from the financial institution that is the official depository for all contributions at the end of the calendar year with the postelection campaign statement in section 49-1459, the statement of exemption in section 49-1459, or with the campaign statement filed under section 49-1462. Section 49-1462 requires committees to file a report if they have not filed a report under section 49-1459.

Secondly, the bill prohibits a candidate committee from loaning money.

Finally, the bill increases the civil penalty the Accountability and Disclosure Commission may order for a violation of the Act from \$2000 to \$5000 for each violation.

LB 742 (Murante) Require instant run-off voting in primary elections

LB 742 provides for instant run-off voting in primary elections.

At a primary election, the voters will vote by ranking their preferences for the candidates listed on the ballot and for write-in candidates when permitted. If a voter writes in a candidate, the voter will rank that candidate as number one.

Ovals will be printed next to the name of each candidate with numbers in each oval allowing the voter to rank each candidate.

The bill provides details on how a voter marks the ballot when the ballot is to be manually counted, counted by an optical scanner, or by an electronic voting system.

At every primary election, the counting board will determine if a candidate has received more than one-half of the votes cast for the nomination. If a candidate has received more than one-half of the votes, such candidate will be the nominee. If no candidate has received more than one-half of the votes, the ballots cast for the candidate who had the fewest votes will be counted for the candidate ranked second on the ballots. This procedure will continue until one candidate has more than one-half of the votes cast and is declared the nominee.

Finally, the bill eliminates provisions for recounts in primary elections.

LB 747 (Avery) Provide electioneering communication reporting requirements and restrictions under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act

LB 747 requires any person who makes an electioneering communication in the amount of \$250 or more to file a report of the electioneering communication with the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission (commission). These reporting requirements are similar for those who make an independent expenditure, including the name of the candidate identified in the electioneering communication.

Similarly, if a corporation, labor organization or business association makes an electioneering communication with a value of more than \$250, it will file a report with the commission including the nature, date, and value of the electioneering communication and the name of the candidate identified in the electioneering communication.

Electioneering communication is defined to mean any communication that: refers to a clearly identified candidate; is publicly distributed in the 30 days before an election; and is directed to the electorate of the office sought by the clearly identified candidate.

Electioneering communication does not include: a contribution or expenditure; a communication by media; a candidate debate; a communication while the Legislature is in session about a specific bill; a voter guide; or a communication by a membership organization to the organization's members.

Also defined in the bill are the terms "clearly identified candidate" and "voter guide."

LB 773 (Davis) Provide for partisan ballots for unaffiliated voters at primary elections

LB 773 allows a registered voter who is not affiliated with a political party and who desires to vote in the primary election for local, county, and state offices to receive the partisan ballot from any political party. The voter is not allowed to vote for delegates to the party's conventions.

No voter is permitted to receive ballots from more than one party at that primary election.

Under current law, voters not affiliated with a political party may vote in partisan primary elections for congressional offices. Also under current law, political parties may allow non-affiliated voters to vote in the primary election for any office the party has candidates by notifying the Secretary of State 60 days before the primary election.

LB 778 (Chambers) Require certain entities to comply with provisions on open meetings, public records, and conflicts of interest

LB 778 requires any entity jointly formed or constituted between a political subdivision and another entity to:

1. Comply with the sections of the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act dealing with officers having interests in contracts with their governing body;

2. Comply with the Open Meetings Act;
3. Make available for public examination documents disclosed at a public meeting of the governing board of the entity or required to be approved by the governing board at a public meeting on or after the effective date of this act, but is not required to make available trade secrets or other proprietary or commercial information.

LB 805 (Avery) Change application requirements to Nebraska veterans homes

LB 805 changes the residency requirement for admission to a Nebraska veterans' home. Currently, an applicant for a state veterans' home must be a bona fide resident of Nebraska for two years.

LB 805 adds that if the applicant's parents or children have been bona fide residents of Nebraska for two years, an applicant is eligible for admission.

LB 919 (Mello) Create the Open Data Advisory Board

LB 919 creates the Open Data Advisory Board. The board will comprise the following: Director of Administrative Services; Chief Information Officer; Director of the State Historical Society; State Records Administrator; a representative of the news media; a member of the public with expertise in information technology; and three members of the Legislature.

The board will be housed in the office of the Chief Information Officer.

The bill defines the terms board, data, and state open data web site.

The board will:

- Study the establishment of a state open data web site;
- Develop recommendations about how to make public data more readily available to the public;
- Report recommendations and standards developed to the Governor and the Executive Board of the Legislature; and
- Review the recommendations and standards annually.

The board will use the current public records statutes as a starting point and be guided by principles that encourage: setting the default position for public data to open; removal of restrictions and unnecessary barriers on the use of public data; balancing factors in favor of excluding public data against the public interest of having information available;

implementation of well-designed public information systems; use of electronic filing; and accountability for those who create, maintain and store public data.

LB 945 (Davis) Provide procedures for aid to political subdivisions from the Governor's Emergency Program

LB 945 makes changes to the Governor's Emergency Program.

With the bill, if a political subdivision submits documentation in support of previously approved application for aid, the Adjutant General will acknowledge the receipt of the documentation within 30 calendar days and notify the political subdivision what additional supporting documentation is necessary to complete the request for aid.

Upon receipt of all necessary documentation submitted as a request for aid by a political subdivision for which state or federal funds have been obligated and an application has already approved, such aid will be remitted to the political subdivision not less than 60 days after acknowledging receipt of all necessary supporting documentation.

LB 1013 (Murante) Permit counties to regulate peddlers, hawkers, and solicitors by ordinance

LB 1013 allows counties to regulate by ordinance the operation or conduct of peddlers, hawkers, or solicitors on public or private property for commercial purposes by imposition of fees, issuance of permit, or both.

The ordinance will state that the permit allows the operation or conduct in all areas of the county where the county has jurisdiction and where a city or village has not otherwise regulated such operation or conduct.

LB 1018 (Hadley) Change public record provisions for withholding job application materials from the public

Current law allows job application materials submitted by applicants, other than finalists, for employment with a public body to be withheld from the public. In other words, job application materials of finalists may not be withheld from the public.

LB 1018 changes the definition of finalist. With the bill, a finalist means any applicant who is submitted to the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska as a candidate for President of the University of Nebraska or who is submitted to the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska as a candidate for chancellor or vice president of the University of Nebraska.

LB 1065 (Lautenbaugh) Eliminate secret ballot provisions under the Open Meetings Act

LB 1065 eliminates language in the Open Meetings Act allowing a public body to vote by secret ballot to elect leadership.

LB 1066 (Lautenbaugh) Require a recorded roll call vote by certain county boards

LB 1066 provides that any action taken by the county board of commissioners on any question will be by roll call vote. The record will state how each commissioner voted or whether the commissioner was absent or did not vote.

LB 1075 (Harr) Prohibit employment of certain persons leaving public positions

LB 1075 provides that a person who is elected or appointed to serve on the governing body of a political subdivision or the governing body of an agency of the executive department of the State of Nebraska is not eligible for employment by the entity for two years after leaving such position.

Also, a person who appoints a member to serve on the governing body of a political subdivision or the governing body of an agency of the executive department of the State of Nebraska is not eligible for employment by the entity for two years after leaving the position by virtue of which he or she made the appointment.

BILL SUMMARIES: 2014 BILLS INDEFINITELY POSTPONED

LB 662 (Krist) Provide and change requirements for voter identification

LB 662 makes changes regarding identification requirements for certain voters.

Under the bill, a person who registers to vote by mail and has not previously voted in an election within the state is required to present a government document that shows the same name and residence address as the person's registration application.

Government document is defined in the Election Act as an identification document issued by a federal, state, or local government agency that includes the name and address of the voter as they appear on the registration application.

Under current law, first time voters who register by mail are allowed to show photographic identification, utility bills, bank statement, government check, paycheck or other government document dated within 60 days.

The second change to the bill requires a person who fails to return a confirmation card to the election commissioner or county clerk prior to 6 p.m. on the second Friday before the election and who appears at his or her polling site as it appears on the voter's registration record will present, at the time of voting, a current and valid government document which has a photograph or digital image of the person and includes the same name and residence of the person as shown on the precinct list before receiving a ballot.

Under current law and under LB 662, a person is mailed this confirmation card if the election official receives information the person has moved from the address at which he or she is registered to vote.

LB 663 (Krist) Change provisions for elections conducted by mail

LB 663 makes two changes to the Election Act.

First, the bill allows candidates as well as "economic issues" to be placed on the ballot for a special election by a political subdivision. Currently, only issues, such as bond issues, but not candidates are allowed on a special election ballot.

The second change allows all counties to apply to the Secretary of State to mail ballots for all elections in some or all of its precincts. Current law allows counties with less than 10,000 inhabitants to apply to the Secretary of State to conduct elections by mail.

RESOLUTIONS SUMMARIES: 2014 RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

LR 395 (Brasch) Recognize February 10, 2014 as the 60th anniversary of the addition of the words “under God” to the Pledge of Allegiance

LR 395 provides that the Legislature recognize February 10, 2014, as the 60th anniversary of the addition of the words “under God” to the United States Pledge of Allegiance. The resolution further provides that the Legislature recognize the significant role of the Pledge of Allegiance in American history.

RESOLUTION SUMMARIES: 2014 RESOLUTIONS HELD IN COMMITTEE

LR 393CA (Murante) Constitutional amendment to change signature requirements for initiative petitions

LR 393CA amends Article III, section 2 of the Nebraska Constitution.

With the change, a petition for the enactment of law will be signed by 3% of the registered voters of the state. The current requirement is 7%.

A petition for an amendment of the Constitution will be signed by 5% of the registered voters. The current requirement is 10%.

The resolution also provides that for petitions for the enactment of a law, the registered voters signing the petition will be distributed to include 3% of the registered voters of each of two-fifths of the counties of the state.

For an amendment to the Constitution, registered voters signing the petition will be distributed to include 5% of the registered voters in each of two-fifths of the counties of the state. There is currently a similar distribution requirement in the Nebraska Constitution.

LR 411CA (Karpisek) Authorize municipalities and counties to exercise powers in matters of local concern and to eliminate home rule charter

LR 411CA adds a new section to Article XI of the Nebraska Constitution.

With the resolution, municipalities and counties are granted the power and authority, not inconsistent with state law, to determine their own local affairs and government.

The Legislature may by law delegate its power so that matters of local concern are handled by municipalities and counties without the necessity of further action by the Legislature.

The rules of law that a municipality or county possesses and can exercise only those powers granted in express words is not part of the law of this state.

The resolution also eliminates four sections of the Nebraska Constitution allowing cities to enact charters.

LIST OF INTERIM STUDIES FOR 2014

- LR 527 Interim study to examine the reasons why emergency disaster payments made by or through the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency and the Federal Emergency Management Agency are not made in a timely manner once awarded
- LR 538 Interim study to examine issues surrounding the implementation of an electronic notary system in Nebraska
- LR 557 Interim study to examine the need to appropriate funds to Memorial Park in Omaha, Nebraska, for improvements to the parks and to examine ways to honor our veterans
- LR 581 Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee
- LR 582 Interim study to review the work of the Task Force on Unfunded Mandates created in 1996 and to study the impacts of unfunded and underfunded mandates on counties and county governments

GOVERNMENT, MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

INDEX OF BILLS

ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION – 2014

LB/LR	Introducer	One-Liners	Hearing Date	Committee Disposition	Bill Status	Comments
LB 41	Cook	Provide for permanent early voting request list and return of early voting ballots to polling places.	1/23/13	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 56	Larson	Provide for automatic nomination of certain county officers.	1/23/13	General File with AM226	Approved by Governor on 2/18/14	
LB 65	Schilz, Davis	Authorize counties to set sheriff's fees and commissions.	1/30/13	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 108	Karpisek	Prohibit counties, cities, and villages from imposing credentialing requirements.	1/30/13	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 127	McGill	Provide for preregistration to vote for 16 and 17 year olds.	2/7/13	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 144	Brasch	Provide for write-in candidacy by defeated candidate.	1/23/13	General File	Approved by Governor on 3/26/14	
LB 160	Schumacher	Provide for electronic signatures on recall, initiative, and referendum petitions.	1/31/13	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 167	McCoy	Change balloting and vacancy provisions for presidential electors.	1/31/13	General File with AM76	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	Provisions/portions of LB 167 were amended into LB 946 by AM2120.
LB 183	Karpisek	Provide for county board appointment of election commissioners.	1/31/13	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	

LB/LR	Introducer	One-Liners	Hearing Date	Committee Disposition	Bill Status	Comments
LB 188	Karpisek	Require legislative approval of gubernatorially appointed election commissioners.	1/31/13	General File with AM691	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 206	Schumacher	Require secret-ballot envelopes for mailed ballots.	2/7/13	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 215	Schilz	Change provisions relating to use of the County Visitors Promotion Fund.	2/13/13	General File with AM156	Approved by Governor on 2/13/14	
LB 217	Avery	Change constitutional officers' salaries.	2/13/13	General File with AM1875	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 219	Avery	Change petition requirements for general election ballot.	2/7/13	General File with AM840	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	Provisions/portions of LB 219 were amended into LB 946 by AM2121.
LB 241	Sullivan, Bolz	Authorize voters to change election of county offices from partisan to nonpartisan.	2/7/13	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 257	McCoy	Change provisions relating to creation of municipal counties.	1/30/13	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 278	Pirsch	Change provisions relating to fees charged by the Secretary of State.	2/20/13	General File	Approved by Governor on 2/13/14	
LB 292	Karpisek	Change population restrictions for conducting elections by mail.	Cancelled 2/21/13 Rescheduled to 3/5/13	Held in Committee	IPP Sine Die 4/17/14	Interim Study LR 192 (2013)
LB 294	Seiler	Change provisions relating to use of public resources by public officials and public employees.	2/22/13	Held in Committee	IPP Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 364	Avery	Permit cities of the metropolitan, primary, and first class to set limits on contracts which affect public officials or employees.	2/22/13	General File with AM1360	Approved by Governor on 4/10/14	
LB 371	Mello, Karpisek, Krist, Avery, Pirsch	Adopt the Transparency in Government Procurement Act.	2/8/13	General File with AM307	Approved by Governor on 3/26/14	
LB 381	Janssen, Kintner	Require photographic identification to vote.	3/7/13	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	

LB/LR	Introducer	One-Liners	Hearing Date	Committee Disposition	Bill Status	Comments
LB 382	Janssen, McCoy, Lautenbaugh, Murante, Schilz	Change presidential elector selection and voting requirements	3/6/13	General File	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	Unanimous consent to bracket until 4/17/14 - Approved
LB 433	Price, Garrett	Require a report and change administration procedures for ballots at hospitals and nursing homes	2/27/13	General File	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 448	Avery	Prohibit contributions by lobbyists to candidates or members of the Legislature during legislative session	2/22/13	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 449	Avery	Redefine high elective office for restrictions on multiple office holding	2/27/13	General File	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 450	Avery	Change political party convention and caucus provisions	2/27/13	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	Interim Study LR 193 (2013)
LB 509	Murante	Change election of learning community coordinating council	3/7/13	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 515	Carlson	Change provisions relating to irrigation district elections	2/28/13	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 521	Christensen	Require cities and villages and other public bodies that maintain web sites to publish ordinances and other information as prescribed	2/6/13	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 534	Avery	Change provisions relating to the Auditor of Public Accounts and the Legis. Performance Audit Section	3/6/13	General File with AM913	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 565	Nelson, Price, Lautenbaugh	Change provisions relating to registering to vote and requesting a ballot for early voting at the same time	2/28/13	General File with AM810	Approved by Governor on 4/15/14	Speaker priority bill. Sen. Nelson's priority bill.
LB 588	Watermeier, Bloomfield, Price	Change veteran employment preference provisions	3/6/13	General File with AM646	Approved by Governor on 2/18/14	
LB 603	Chambers	Include affirmation as an alternative when an oath is required	3/1/13	General File with AM1448	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	

LB/LR	Introducer	One-Liners	Hearing Date	Committee Disposition	Bill Status	Comments
LB 632	Bolz, Campbell	Change funding for county offices relating to public assistance programs.	3/6/13	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 637	Wallman, Bloomfield, Brasch, et al	Require an economic analysis of rules and regulations proposed by the Department of Environmental Quality.	2/20/13	General File	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	Sen. Wallman's priority bill. Sen. Sullivan's name withdrawn.
LR 12CA	Harms	Constitutional amendment to authorize a county manager form of county government.	1/23/13	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LR 23	Avery	Memorialize Congress to support a constitutional amendment responding to the U.S. Supreme Court decision in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission.	3/7/13	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LR 38	Avery, Mello	Endorse Taiwan's participation in the International Civil Aviation Organization as an observer and support efforts to grant Taiwan official observer status at the United National Framework Convention on Climate Change.	3/7/13	Reported to Legislature for further consideration with AM758	AM758 lost. Adopted on 4/10/14. President/Speaker signed on 4/17/14	
2014 Legislation						
LB 661	Krist, Mello, Conrad	Provide for voter registration on the Secretary of State's website and use of Department of Motor Vehicle records.	1/23/14	General File with AM1778	Approved by Governor on 3/31/14	Government, Military & Veterans Affairs Committee priority bill.
LB 662	Krist	Provide and change requirements for voter identification.	1/23/14	Indefinitely Postponed	Indefinitely Postponed	
LB 663	Krist	Change provisions for elections conducted by mail.	1/23/14	Indefinitely Postponed	Indefinitely Postponed	
LB 676	Chambers	Change filing and enforcement provisions of the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act.	1/30/14	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 718	Crawford, Mello	Change procedures for adoption of rules and regulations and require publication of certain information.	1/24/14	General File with AM1724	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	

LB/LR	Introducer	One-Liners	Hearing Date	Committee Disposition	Bill Status	Comments
LB 719	Crawford, Mello	Require a report and change complaint procedures regarding rules and regulations.	1/24/14	General File with AM1787	Approved by Governor on 4/15/14	Speaker priority bill. Provisions/portions of LB 720 (Executive Board) were amended in LB 719 by AM2066.
LB 726	Scheer	Provide for changing the number of school board members in Class II and Class III school districts.	1/31/14	General File	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	Provisions/portions of LB 726 were amended into LB 946 by AM2047.
LB 737	Dubas	Change qualifications for county veterans service officers.	2/13/14	General File with AM2078	Approved by Governor on 4/10/14	
LB 742	Murante	Require instant run-off voting in primary elections.	1/31/14	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 743	Murante	Provide definition of one-half of an elected term of office.	1/31/14	General File	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	Provisions/portions of LB 743 were amended into LB 946 by AM2047.
LB 744	Avery	Establish the Nebraska Sesquicentennial Commission.	1/24/14	General File with AM1757	Approved by Governor on 4/4/14	Speaker priority bill
LB 745	Avery	Change various provisions relating to administrative governmental functions.	1/29/14	General File	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	Provisions/portions of LB 745 were amended into LB 974 (Appropriations Committee) by AM2590.
LB 746	Avery	Change election provisions to authorize provisional ballots and require identification for certain voters.	2/5/14	General File	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 747	Avery	Provide electioneering communication reporting requirements and restrictions under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act.	1/30/14	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 766	Bloomfield	Change tuition assistance program provisions for National Guard members.	1/22/14	General File	Approved by Governor on 4/10/14	
LB 772	Davis	Increase expenditure amount for Adjutant General for aerial fire suppression or hazardous material response.	1/22/14	General File	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	Provisions/portions of LB 772 were amended into LB 390 (Judiciary Committee) by AM2663.

LB/LR	Introducer	One-Liners	Hearing Date	Committee Disposition	Bill Status	Comments
LB 773	Davis, Karpisek, Conrad	Provide for partisan ballots for unaffiliated voters at primary elections.	2/19/14	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 778	Chambers	Require certain entities to comply with provisions on open meetings, public records, and conflicts of interest.	1/30/14	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 792	Sullivan	Eliminate a report requirement by the county treasurers to the State Treasurer.	1/29/14	General File	Approved by Governor on 4/10/14	
LB 804	Avery	Change and eliminate procedures for filling vacancies and removal of certain gubernatorial appointees.	1/29/14	General File	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 805	Avery	Change application requirements to Nebraska veterans homes.	2/13/14	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 806	Avery	Change provisions of the Military Code relating to Military Department personnel.	1/22/14	General File	Approved by Governor on 4/10/14	
LB 817	K. Haar	Change membership provisions relating to public power district boards.	2/7/14	General File	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 825	Lautenbaugh	Require Open Meeting Act compliance by boards and subcommittees subject to the Nebraska Workforce Investment Act.	2/6/14	General File	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 833	Dubas	Change selection provisions for county surveyors.	1/29/14	General File with AM1919	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	Provisions/portions of LB 833 were amended into LB 946 by AM2047.
LB 845	Schilz, Watermeier	Provide for regulation of meteorological evaluation towers.	2/7/14	General File with AM2043	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 919	Mello	Create the Open Data Advisory Board.	2/7/14	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 935	Gloor	Require legislative approval to move state services.	2/13/14	General File with AM2182	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	Sen. Gloor 's priority bill. Failed to advance to Enrollment & Review Initial.

LB/LR	Introducer	One-Liners	Hearing Date	Committee Disposition	Bill Status	Comments
LB 937	Karpisek	Change quorum requirements for county boards of supervisors.	2/6/14	General File	Approved by Governor on 4/10/14	
LB 945	Davis, Brasch	Provide procedures for aid to political subdivisions from the Governor's Emergency Program.	2/12/14	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 946	Murante	Change provisions relating to bond elections, county surveyor elections, school board elections, administration and conduct of elections, vacancies, presidential electors, and threshold amounts under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act.	2/5/14	General File with AM2047	Approved by Governor on 4/2/14	Sen. Murante's priority bill. Provisions/portions of LB 167, LB 219, LB 726, LB 743, LB 833 and LB 1084 were amended into LB 946.
LB 957 (Withdrawn)	Christensen	Require certain oil and gas exploration findings to be a public record.	No hearing	-----	Bill withdrawn on 1/22/14	
LB 980	Johnson	Change provisions relating to termination of a township board.	2/19/14	General File	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 1013	Murante	Permit counties to regulate peddlers, hawkers, and solicitors by ordinance.	2/19/14	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 1018	Hadley	Change public record provisions for withholding job application materials from the public.	2/6/14	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 1024 (Withdrawn)	Mello	Permit the Nebraska Tourism Commission to adopt an official state symbol or slogan.	No hearing	-----	Bill withdrawn on 1/30/14	
LB 1037	McGill	Authorize Auditor of Public Accounts to examine certain entities formed under the Interlocal Cooperation Act.	2/12/14	General File	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 1048	Murante	Require delivery of the official election calendar and change and eliminate political party provisions.	2/5/14	General File with AM1894	Approved by Governor on 4/9/14	Government, Military & Veterans Affairs Committee priority bill.
LB 1058	Larson, K. Haar, Lautenbaugh, Schilz	Adopt the Interstate Compact on the Agreement Among the States to Elect the President by National Popular Vote.	2/12/14	General File	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	Sen. Larson's priority bill. Sen. Murante withdrew his name as introducer. Sen. Larson added his name as cointroducer.

LB/LR	Introducer	One-Liners	Hearing Date	Committee Disposition	Bill Status	Comments
LB 1065	Lautenbaugh	Eliminate secret ballot provisions under the Open Meetings Act.	2/20/14	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 1066	Lautenbaugh	Require a recorded roll call vote by certain county boards.	2/20/14	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 1075	B. Harr, Ashford, Chambers, et al	Prohibit employment of certain persons leaving public positions.	2/20/14	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LB 1084	Garrett	Change provisions governing the filling of certain vacancies.	2/12/14	General File with AM1843	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	Provisions/portions of LB 1084 were amended into LB 946 by AM2047.
LR 393CA	Murante, Bloomfield, Dubas, et al	Constitutional amendment to change signature requirements for initiative petitions.	2/21/14	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	
LR 395	Brasch	Recognize February 10, 2014 as the 60 th anniversary of the addition of the words “under God” to the Pledge of Allegiance.	2/21/14	Reported to Legislature for further consideration	Adopted on 4/10/14. President/Speaker signed on 4/17/14	
LR 411CA	Karpisek	Authorize municipalities and counties to exercise powers in matters of local concern and to eliminate home rule charters.	2/21/14	Held in Committee	IPP – Sine Die 4/17/14	

Governor/ Secretary of State Appts.	Name	Board/Commission	Hearing Date	Committee Disposition	Legislative Status	Comments
Governor Appointment	Sherry Blaha (Replaced John Baroni)	State Emergency Response Commission	2/20/14	Reported to Legislature for confirmation	Legislature Approved (3-5-14)	
Governor Appointment	Adjutant General Daryl L. Bohac (Replaced Col. Judd Lyons)	Military Department - Adjutant General for the State of Nebraska	1/22/14	Reported to Legislature for confirmation	Legislature Approved (1-30-14)	
Governor Appointment	Lisa Burke (Replaced Mitch Glidden)	Nebraska Tourism Commission	3/24/14	Reported to Legislature for confirmation.	Legislature Approved (3-26-14)	
Governor Appointment	John Chapo (Reappointment)	Nebraska Tourism Commission	3/24/14	Reported to Legislature for confirmation	Legislature Approved (3-26-14)	
Governor Appointment	John L. Grimes (Replaced Richard Christensen)	State Emergency Response Commission	2/12/14	Reported to Legislature for confirmation	Legislature Approved (3-5-14)	
Governor Appointment	Roger Jasnoch (Replaced Mike Kesselring)	Nebraska Tourism Commission	3/24/14	Reported to Legislature for confirmation	Legislature Approved (3-26-14)	
Governor Appointment	Larry Johnson (Reappointment)	State Emergency Response Commission	2/26/14	Reported to Legislature for confirmation.	Legislature Approved (3-5-14)	
Secretary of State Appt.	Andrew Loudon (Replaced Richard Nelson)	Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission	2/19/14	Reported to Legislature for confirmation.	Legislature Approved (3-5-14)	
Governor Appointment	Debra Nelson-Loseke (Reappointment)	Nebraska Tourism Commission	3/24/14	Reported to Legislature for confirmation	Legislature Approved (3-26-14)	
Governor Appointment	Benjamin Salo (Replaced Mark Maday)	State Emergency Response Commission	2/12/14	Reported to Legislature for confirmation.	Legislature Approved (3-5-14)	

